

S U D B U R Y B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

in the

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1968



To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Sudbury Borough Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Services for the year, 1968.

I am grateful to the Mayor, Councillor R.G. Playford, and Members of the Council, Councillor P.R. McQuhae, the Chairman and to the Members of the Drainage and Health Committee for their courtesy to me during the year.

I wish to thank also Mr. G.C. Mountstephen, the Town Clerk, Mr. A.J. Gould, the Public Health Inspector and all other officers of the Council for their help to me.

Your obedient servant,

Medical Officer of Health.

MEMBERS OF THE DRAINAGE AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor R.G. Playford, J.P., (Mayor)

Councillor P.R. McQuhae. (Chairman)

Alderman E.A. Essex.

Alderman C.E. Grimwood, J.P.

Alderman H. Talbot.

Alderman S.W. Wood.

Councillor W.R. Barker.

Councillor H.B. Eady.

Councillor D.M. Raybould.

Councillor J.W. White.

STAFF.

Dr. E. Kinnear, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

(This officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:

Medical Officer of Health - Hadleigh U.D.C., Melford R.D.C.,
Cosford R.D.C., Thedwastre R.D.C. Assistant County Medical
Officer, School Medical Officer West Suffolk County Council.)

Mr. A.J. Gould, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector.

Mrs. J. Ranson, Clerical Assistant and Shorthand Typist.

GENERALSTATISTICS.

(Figures in brackets throughout the report relate to the year 1967)

<u>Population.</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Registrar-General's Estimate.	7,560	(7,060)
Rateable Value as at 1st April.	£289,958	(£270,583)
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate (1968/69)	£1,168	(£1,100)
Area, in Acres.	1,925	(1,925)

VITAL STATISTICS.Live Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.	125 (129)	63 (74)	62 (55)
Illegitimate.	5 (13)	1 (5)	4 (8)
Total.	130 (142)	64 (79)	66 (63)

Adjusted Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimate population 18.9 (23.3)
 (Area Comparability Factor 1.11)

England and Wales Birth Rate per 1,000 estimate population 16.9 (17.2)

Still Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.	3 (3)	1 (1)	2 (3)
Illegitimate.	2 (-)	- (-)	2 (-)
Total.	5 (3)	1 (-)	4 (3)

Deaths Registered in 1968.

<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
151 (145)	66 (62)	85 (83)

Death Rate (adjusted) per 1,000 population. 12.9 (10.2)
(Area Comparability Factor 0.65)

England and Wales, Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.
11.9 (11.2)

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth. Nil (Nil)

Infant Mortality.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year,			
Legitimate.	4 (6)	3 (5)	1 (1)
Illegitimate.	- (1)	1 (-)	- (1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.	4 (7)	3 (5)	1 (2)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births. 30.7 (49.2)

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births, England & Wales 18.0 (18.0)

Neo-Natal Mortality.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks.			
Legitimate.	4 (4)	3 (3)	1 (1)
Illegitimate.	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.	4 (5)	3 (3)	1 (2)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Early Neo-Natal Mortality.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths of infants under 1 week.			
Legitimate.	4 (3)	3 (2)	1 (1)
Illegitimate.	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.	4 (4)	3 (2)	1 (2)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The above statistics relate to the deaths of four infants and five stillborn infants as follows:-

<u>Sex.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Cause of death.</u>
M.	4 minutes.	Cardiac failure prolapse of umbilical cord.
M.	5 hours.	Respiratory failure primary atelectasis hyaline membrane disease.
F.	11 hours.	Respiratory failure Prematurity.

One infant death untraced.

Stillbirths.

F.	29 weeks.	Concealed accidental haemorrhage Severe pre-eclamptic toxæmia.
F.	33 weeks.	Congenital abnormality.
F.	38 weeks.	Placental insufficiency.
M.	-	Placental insufficiency.

One stillbirth untraced.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1968.

(Registrar-General's Figures.)

<u>ALL CAUSES.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>
	151	66	85
Malignant neoplasm - stomach.	3	3	-
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus.	3	3	-
Malignant neoplasm - breast.	2	-	2
Other malignant neoplasms etc.	12	5	7
Diabetes Mellitus.	1	-	1
Mental disorders.	2	2	-
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	1	-	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease.	1	1	-
Hypertensive disease.	2	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease.	44	21	23
Other forms of heart disease.	4	1	3
Cerebrovascular disease.	37	11	26
Other diseases of Circulatory System.	7	2	5
Influenza.	4	1	3
Pneumonia.	14	7	7
Bronchitis and emphysema.	5	3	2
Peptic ulcer.	2	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system.	2	1	1
Birth injury, difficult labour.	2	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality.	2	2	-
All other external causes.	1	-	1

PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diseases.	Cases Notified.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.
Notifications received.	70 (101)	37 (50)	33 (51)
Scarlet Fever.	17 (17)	10 (8)	7 (9)
Measles.	3 (62)	2 (30)	1 (32)
Ac. Pneumonia.	48 (19)	24 (12)	24 (7)
Erysipelas.	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Food Poisoning.	1 (2)	1 (-)	- (2)
Puerperal pyrexia.	1 (1)	-	1 (1)

Tuberculosis - New cases notified during 1968.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Pulmonary.	1 (-)	1 (-)	- (-)
Non-pulmonary.	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.	1 (-)	1 (-)	- (-)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Welfare Centres.

The West Suffolk County Council provide one centre in the town.

A Clinic is held weekly at the Health Clinic, Acton Lane, on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. Welfare Foods are also distributed from this centre.

Two health visitors attend. A Medical Officer also attends on two sessions in the month.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road East, Ipswich, under the directorship of Dr. P.K. Frazer, is always generous with advice and services.

Mdssrs. Lincolne, Sutton and Wood, Limited, Norwich provide analytical reports on water and foods.

Hospitals.

St. Leonards.

General practitioner staffed hospital, with visiting consultants and Out Patients clinics, maternity, general medical, minor surgical, some geriatric patients.

Walnuttree.

The majority of these beds are geriatric. There is a physiotherapy department with some specialised equipment. Psychiatric and opthalmic Out Patients clinics are held. The County Welfare Officers for the area is also in attendance when psychiatric clinics are held.

Walnuttree Hospital has a pathology department which is of considerable help to general practitioners and both hospitals.

Family Planning Clinics, are held, in the Outpatients' Department of Walnuttree Hospital.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

A. J. GOULD A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.,

To the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the
Sudbury Borough Council.

I submit for your consideration my report for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

The work carried out during the year has basically been very similar to that done in previous years. There has been, perhaps more, emphasis on routine inspection of Shops and Offices, particularly of food premises.

Slum clearance has continued with action against individual unfit houses, rather than against areas of unfit housing. Simultaneously there has been an increase in the number of houses repaired and improved, with and without grant aid.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members for the interest they have shown in the work of the Public Health Department during the year. I would also like to thank Dr. E. Kinnear, and the other Officers of the Council for their continued co-operation and support, and Mrs. Ranson who has **also** helped in every possible way during the preceding year.

A.J. GOULD,
Public Health Inspector.

H O U S I N G

HOUSING

New Houses - Council.

During 1968 no dwellings were completed but preliminary work was put in hand for development at the rear of Cats Lane comprising 41 units in three blocks.

A contract has been awarded for 227 houses the first phase of the Springlands Estate at Gallows Hill. Roads and sewers for the first and second stages have been completed and put under a twelve month maintenance period.

New Houses - Private.

The progress of private building was comparable with the previous year, but little new development was started during 1968.

OLD HOUSES.

Progress in dealing with sub-standard housing during the year is listed.

<u>Type of Action.</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>Total since 1955.</u>
<u>CLEARANCE AREAS.</u>		
Number of Clearance Areas declared. -		17
Total number of properties involved.-		226
Properties excluded from orders. -		6

<u>Type of Action.</u>	<u>1968.</u>	<u>Total since 1955.</u>
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DEMOLITION ORDERS.

Properties demolished under Demolition Orders.	1	9
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TIME AND PLACE MEETINGS.

A number of properties were considered at Time and Place Meetings during the year with the following results.

CLOSING ORDERS MADE. 9 Properties.

Undertakings accepted to make property fit. 3 Properties.

These three have been completed.

CLOSING ORDERS determined. 6 Properties.

REHOUSING.

The chart below shows the fairly rapid increase of Housing work being undertaken by the Borough.

From 1955 to 1968 the average number of families rehoused per year was 30

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Number of Families rehoused.	19	69	77	25
Number of New Applications for Rehousing Received.	60	81	118	90
Number of persons rehoused.	48	170	187	67

The Council have now built 693 dwellings and own various miscellaneous properties which are used for rehousing. In addition 171 garages have been provided by the Council.

GENERAL.

During the year fourteen informal notices were served and all properties were repaired following these informal notices.

Many other minor repairs were attended to after an informal visit or telephone call to the owner.

At the end of 1968 the number of applicants on the Council's Housing List was 241.

Numerous reports were made on the accommodation occupied by applicants.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.

No certificates were issued during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Progress continued with housing improvements during the year. There was again a comparatively small amount paid under discretionary grants, but standard grant payments continued at a much increased rate.

This is no doubt because an applicant finds the requirements for a discretionary grant rather difficult or onerous and prefers usually to apply for a standard grant.

The new Housing Bill, which it is hoped will become law in 1969 will mean that the range of standard grants may be extended, the grants made easier to obtain in some cases, and improvement by such grants very much encouraged. Powers to compel owners to improve houses with standard grants are possible.

STANDARD GRANTS.

Year.	No. of Applications.	No. Completed.	Grants Paid.		
			£.	s.	d.
1959	4				
1960	7	8	796.	6.	3.
1961	11	4	560.	0.	0.
1962	16	13	1,551.	4.	11.
1963	16	9	1,208.	1.	4.
1964	7	12	1,597.	7.	8.
1965	10	4	498.	3.	7.
1966	9	10	1,458.	6.	10.
1967	16	9	1,357.	19.	4.
1968	39	24	5,107.	19.	4.
			£14,135.	9.	3.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.

Year.	No. of Applications.	No. Completed.	Grants Paid.		
			£.	s.	d.
1959	22	8	1,618.	14.	3.
1960	10	12	2,247.	4.	6.
1961	10	9	1,948.	5.	9.
1962	10	12	2,357.	14.	5.
1963	5	7	1,443.	0.	0.
1964	6	3	746.	19.	9.
1965	1	2	648.	10.	0.
1966	2	1	197.	10.	3.
1967	-	2	493.	19.	6.
1968	4	4	1,374.	0.	0.
			£13,075.	18.	5.

ANNUAL POST WAR DEVELOPMENT RATE.

The following are the post war housing development figures for the years 1947 to 1968.

Year	Council Houses	Private Dwellings	Total	Year	Council Houses	Private Dwellings	Total.
			Brought Forward		302	130	432
1947	24	6	30	1958	-	22	22
1948	27	12	39	1959	26	11	37
1949	30	2	32	1960	50	14	64
1950	26	8	34	1961	22	27	49
1951	18	5	23	1962	10	58	68
1952	30	6	36	1963	36	41	77
1953	29	14	43	1964	42	109	151
1954	62	18	80	1965	-	88	88
1955	10	20	30	1966	68	51	119
1956	0	28	28	1967	12	90	102
1957	46	11	57	1968	-	38	38
Total.	302	130	432	Total.	568	679	1,247

HOUSE INSPECTIONS.

The following visits for inspection or re-inspection have been made:-

Improvement Grants.	140
Individual Unfit.	111
Clearance.	20
Rent Act.	-
Other.	70

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The weekly collection of domestic refuse continued during the year. The use of plastic refuse disposal bags has increased steadily and has assisted in providing greater efficiency of the service.

The refuse disposal tip has not caused any serious nuisances and the daily covering of the waste was excuted satisfactorily in spite of the long periods of inclement weather suffered during the year.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The water reclamation works continued to operate satisfactorily and samples taken generally gave satisfactory results, particularly after desludging had taken place.

SWIMMING POOL.

The swimming pool was open from May to September but it is not easy to compare attendances due to the efficient heating of the water and the sub normal summer.

The total final figures were as follows:-

Full seasons.	54
Child "	139
Monthly "	54
Adults	6,751
Children	29,439
Mother & Child	402
Spectators	6,212
Family Tickets	744

Total admissions about 70,000

Routine residual chlorine and ph tests are made at the pool and samples taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Ipswich. No adverse results were obtained and the water was assumed to be of a satisfactory degree of purity.

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply of water during the year was adequate. Frequent samples gave uniformly satisfactory results. The water is supplied by the West Suffolk Water Board and the character of the water is still very hard, with a very high figure for both temporary and permanent hardness.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Public Conveniences in Burkitts Lane have been in use throughout the year.

A certain amount of vandalism persisted throughout the year, and constant effort was needed by the Borough Surveyor's Department to keep clean and usable the facilities provided and to minimise the damage being done.

The public conveniences in Gaol Lane were closed but those at the rear of the swimming pool in Belle Vue Gardens are still in use.

DISINFESTATION.

Disinfestation by spraying of three premises was carried out during the year.

WASPS NESTS.

During the year 20 wasps' nests were destroyed by the Rodent Operator.

PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

On receipt of complaint of infestation, premises were visited and treatment given free of charge.

BUSINESS PREMISES.

Business premises were tested under agreement when found to be infested. Treatment charges as from 1st April, 1968 were increased to 10/- per hour

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES.

The agricultural properties were surveyed periodically and treatment carried out where necessary, charges on a time and material basis.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Borough.

I N S P E C T I O N S

The following visits for inspections or reinspections under various Acts have been made:-

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Dwelling Houses.	250
Offensive Accumulations.	2
Dust and Effluvia.	2
Ditches and Watercourses.	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	2
Drains and Sewers.	100
Closets.	4
Dustbins.	-
Inns, Restaurants, Cinemas.	50
Verminous Premises.	3
Infectious Diseases.	7
Petroleum Licences.	72
Water Supply.	5
Swimming Pool.	9
Noise.	35
Sewage Works.	6
Home Safety.	-
Refuse Tips.	21
Cattle Market.	32
Public Conveniences.	22
Explosives.	24

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956.

Industrial Premises.	17
Domestic Premises.	-
Miscellaneous.	11

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951. 2

CARAVANS SITES ACT 1960. 2

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

Rodents - Domestic Premises.	23
Rodents - Business Premises.	3
Rodents - Farms.	-
Insects.	33
Miscellaneous.	50
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders etc.	50

FOOD.

FOOD CONTROL.

Inspection of food premises continued. Many small improvements were carried out after informal notice. These contribute in time to a general small improvement in standards at all shops. Some improvements were major in character and it is hoped to continue emphasis on few unsatisfactory food premises.

UN SOUND FOOD.

There was a large increase in the amount of food found to be unfit. This is probably due to the increase in large food shops.

The following foodstuffs were examined at wholesale and retail food shops and certificates given when they were voluntarily surrendered.

2725	Tins.
1119	Packets.
73	Jars.

General Food.

50 lbs.	Beef.
5 lbs.	Kidneys.
2	Chickens.
10 boxes.	Lettuce.
14 lbs.	Confectionery.
5	Loaves bread.
- 17 -	

ICE CREAM.

Thirty-five premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. Ice Cream sold at these premises was one of the nationally known products, all being wrapped.

PRESERVED FOODS.

Seventeen premises were registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed pickled or preserved foods.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The licensing of dealers in Sudbury is the responsibility of the West Suffolk County Council.

At present there are 5 registered distributors and 6 shop dealers in milk. These hold between them, one license to deal in untreated milk, 8 Pasteurised and 11 Sterilised licenses.

Sampling of the milk was carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council on behalf of the Health Department. Copies of sample reports received indicated that these were satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL.

The rat population increased here, as throughout the country, during 1968. Towards the end of the year, it did appear however, that the increase had perhaps stopped. Regular routine surveys are carried out by the Rodent Operator and all complaints are promptly dealt with.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

FOOD PREMISES.

The total number of premises in the Borough concerned with the manufacture preparation, storage or sale of food is 113.

These can be classified as follows:-

Cafes and Restaurants.	10
Bakehouses.	3
Cake Shops.	4
Confectioners.	15
Greengrocers.	4
Grocers and General Stores.	26
Butchers.	7
Fishmongers.	4
Public Houses.	20
Hotels.	4
Guest Houses.	1
Wine Merchants.	3
Clubs.	3
Supermarkets.	5
Wholesalers.	4

In addition to the above, markets are held on the Market Hill. A fishmonger, grocer, greengrocers and confectioner attend regularly on Thursdays and Saturdays.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The following visits for inspection or reinspection were made:-

Hygiene Regulations/Byelaws - Shops.	83
Hygiene Regulations/Byelaws - Stalls and Vehicles.	114
Hygiene Regulations/Byelaws Personal Hygiene.	20
Ice Cream Premises.	10
Food Inspection - Other.	52

SHOP ACT.

Inspection of shop premises during the year indicated that in the main the basic requirements of the Shops Act were met.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

At the end of the year there were registered:-

Offices.	56
Retail Shops.	129
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses.	8
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	10
Fuel Storage depots.	4

Many visits were made to these premises to ensure that the provisions of the Act were enforced and after service of informal notices many defects were remedied.

The following visits were made under the above Act. 127

It is felt that many smaller premises are not registering under this Act and in the future it is hoped to conduct a survey of unregistered premises so as to complete registration.

F A C T O R I E S A C T.

Details of the inspection under the Factories Acts are recorded below.

The number of factories on the register totalled 68.

- 1a. Inspections for Purpose of Provisions as to Health.
(including inspections by the Public Health Inspector.)

	No. on Register.	Number of.		
		Inspections.	Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	3	2	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	60	30	2	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. 'excluding out-workers premises.)	5	5	-	-
Total.	68	37	2	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found - 4 .

Outwork - Sections 133 and 134.

Section 133				Section 134		
Nature of Work.	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of Instances of work in unwhole some premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecution
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel.	17					
Making etc. cleaning and washing.	1					
Curtain and furniture hangings.	1					
Total.	19					

